## PENDING CLAIMS:

Pursuant to a restriction requirement under 35 U.S.C. § 121, please make the following claim amendments:

1: (Original) A method of making a dip-coated covered stent for use in a body lumen, comprising:

providing a mandrel coated with a biocompatible polymer to form a base coat layer thereon;

providing a plurality of cylindrical stent rings being expandable in a radial direction, each of the rings having a first delivery diameter, and a second implanted diameter, aligned on a common longitudinal axis;

mounting the plurality of cylindrical stent rings onto the mandrel to form a mandrel assembly wherein the rings are spaced an equal distance apart from each other;

depositing the mandrel assembly in a polymer solution to form a dip-coated covered stent; and

removing the dip-coated covered stent from the mandrel.

- 2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the mandrel is formed of a material from the group consisting of teflon (PTFE), nylon, polyimide, polyethylene, and PET.
- 3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the polymer solution cures to form the base coat layer of the mandrel prior to mounting the cylindrical rings thereon.
- 4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the cylindrical rings are formed from a metallic material taken from the group of materials consisting of stainless steel, titanium, nickel titanium, tantalum, gold, cobalt-chromium, platinum, palladium, and iradium.
- 5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the cylindrical rings are formed from a material taken from the group consisting of liquid crystallin, and liquid crystallin blends with other polymers, ceramics, and ceramic-reinforced polymers.
- 6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein flexibility of the stent increases when the distance between the cylindrical rings increases.

- 7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the mandrel assembly is deposited in the polymer solution by dip-coating.
- 8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the biocompatible polymer covering the cylindrical rings is taken from the group of polymers consisting of polyurethanes, polyetherurethanes, polyesterurethanes, silicone, thermoplastic elastomer, sulfonated A-BA- type tri-block polymer, polyether-amide thermoplastic elastomer, fluoroelastomers, polyvinyledenefluoride (PVDF) and copolymers of PVDF, fluorosilicone elastomer, styrene-butadiene-styrene rubber, styrene-isoprene-styrene rubber, polybutadiene, polyisoprene, neoprene (polychloroprene), ethylene-propylene elastomer, chlorosulfonated polyethylene elastomer, butyl rubber, polysulfide elastomer, polyacrylate elastomer, nitrile, rubber, a family of elastomers composed of styrene, ethylene, propylene, aliphatic polycarbonate polyurethane, polymers augmented with antioxidants, bioactive polymers augmented with image enhancing materials, ceramics, polymers having a proton (H+) core, polymers augmented with protons (H+), polyester copolymer elastomers, biodegradable polymers, polyethylene, polycaprolactone, PLLA, PLA, PGA, PLGA, polyanhydrids, polyphothazenes, polyorthoesters, Elasteon®, chitosin alginate, collagen, and elastin.



- 9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein prior to mounting the cylindrical rings on the polymer coated mandrel, the polymer is cured on the mandrel assembly.
- 10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the method of dip-coating the mandrel assembly in the polymer solution is repeated until the polymer covering the cylindrical rings attains a thickness of about 25 microns to 200 microns.
- 11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the cylindrical rings have a thickness of about 25 microns to 350 microns.
- 12. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein each end of the dip-coated covered stent is trimmed.
- 13. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein a perforated pattern is cut into the dip-coated covered stent.

- 14. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein a drug is incorporated within the layer of the biocompatible polymer coating the cylindrical rings.
- 15. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the drug includes antiplatelets, anticoagulants, antifibrins, antithrombins, and antiproliferatives.
- 16. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the cylindrical rings consist of three layers, including a primer coat, a middle layer of the polymer with the drug incorporated therein, and a top coat.
- 17. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the three layers combined have a thickness of about 3 microns to 300 microns.
- 18. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the middle layer of the polymer with the drug incorporated therein has a thickness of about 2 microns to 150 microns.
- 19. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein a lumenal side of the rings are asymmetrically coated.
- 20. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the lumenal side of the rings are asymmetrically coated with at least one of heparin, IIb/IIIa inhibitors, PEG, and hyaluronic acid.

Claims 21-69 (Cancel)